



CITY OF EVANSVILLE FAQs – Temporary Class “B”/”Class B” Retail (Picnic) Licenses for Beer and/or Wine Walks

These FAQs are specific to events held in the City of Evansville and are intended to help clarify confusion pertaining to temporary alcohol (picnic) licenses for beer and/or wine walks. This is not intended to provide legal advice nor does it address all areas of concern or responsibility for a licensee. As the dispensing of alcoholic beverages exposes you to significant personal and legal risks, including potential civil and criminal liability, you are encouraged to seek the advice of your own legal counsel.

What are Wine and Beer Walks?

Wine and Beer Walks allow for-profit businesses to participate and benefit from a temporary license issued to an eligible organization. Municipalities may issue up to 20 licenses to an eligible organization that is sponsoring a single-day event held at multiple locations in the municipality on a particular date and at the same times, and an admission fee is charged for participating in the event and no additional fee is charged for service of alcohol at the event. Wis. Stats. 125.51(10)(b). Wine walks are limited to no more than two within a 12-month period in the municipality; there is no limit for the number of beer walks. ***Please be aware that wine walk events must end by 9:00 p.m.***

Who is eligible to hold a temporary license for a beer and/or wine walk?

Temporary licenses may be issued to bona fide clubs, and chambers of commerce, to county or local fair associations or agricultural societies, to churches, lodges, or societies that have been in existence for at least 6 months before the date of application, and to posts of veterans' organizations. “Chamber of Commerce” means a local chamber of commerce organized under Ch. 181 or a similar civic or trade organization organized under Ch. 181 to promote economic growth and opportunity within a local geographical area. Wis. Stats. 125.02 (3u). An officer of the organization must sign the completed application and the organization must be in charge of the overall event. At least one person must be a City of Evansville licensed bartender (Operator’s License) or Agent. This person must be capable of supervising the event.

How is the application completed for multiple-location event?

The sponsoring organization is the applicant for a single-day, multiple-location event. They must provide their organizational information, date of the beer and/or wine walk event and list their address. For the Location(s) of Premises applicant should include the address and a description as to where beer and/or wine will be sold, served, consumed, stored, and areas where alcohol beverage records are stored; each business owners’ print and signature acknowledging this information. The maximum number of additional license may not exceed 19.

What is the fee for the Temporary Retail License and how many Licenses will be issued?

The fee is \$10 for each location. If 19 businesses participate, the fee will be \$200, which includes the sponsoring organization. Each participant and the sponsoring organization will receive a License, **which must be prominently posted at each location during the event.**

Are licensed beverage operators required at each licensed location?

Yes. Each location that is licensed for the beer/wine walk must have at least one licensed beverage operator to serve or supervise the service of beer or wine.

If a customer is not finished with their beer/wine, may they take it with them?

No. Public consumption is prohibited by local ordinance on the street, alleys or public way. Consumers may not leave a licensed premises with open intoxicants.

Is there a temporary alcohol license for liquor?

No. There are two types of temporary alcohol licenses: 1) Fermented malt beverage license (beer, wine coolers, etc.), and; 2) Wine. You may obtain and operate under one or both licenses at a time. **There is no temporary license that permits you to sell intoxicating liquor (i.e., whisky, rum, vodka, brandy, etc.).**

May a non-qualifying organization partner with a qualifying organization to obtain a temporary license?

There is no issue with qualifying and non-qualifying organizations combining their resources to operate the overall event. However, **the organization which obtains the temporary alcohol license is legally required to be the operator of the alcohol operations.** The licensee cannot delegate these responsibilities to another organization nor to a concessionaire, caterer, or other business. Obtaining a license with the intent that another organization or party will be responsible for the alcohol operations may void the license and deprive the participating organizations of the privileges and immunities associated with such a license. If your organization’s name is on the license, your organization is the licensee and will be held accountable. This means that you must supply the people from your organization to actively manage and operate the alcohol operations. Your members may be supplemented by paid personnel and volunteers.